

National Weather Service Tallahassee, Florida

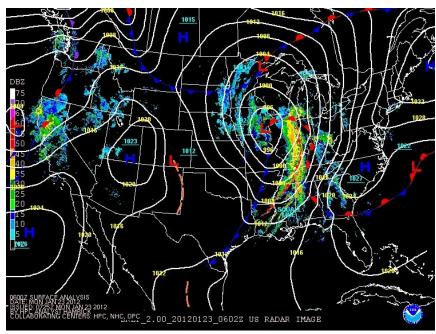


In this update:

"Very slight" risk of strong to severe storms this afternoon & early evening

Key Points for this event:

While we do not expect the severe storms that affected central Alabama early this morning to reach our area, there is a "very slight" chance that a brief strong to severe thunderstorm could develop in south Alabama and/or south Georgia this afternoon or early evening.



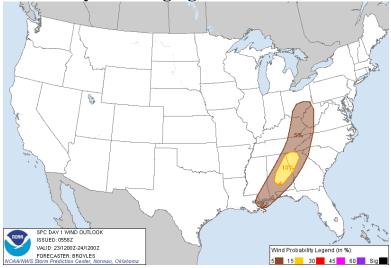
Early Morning Weather Map

The current weather picture:

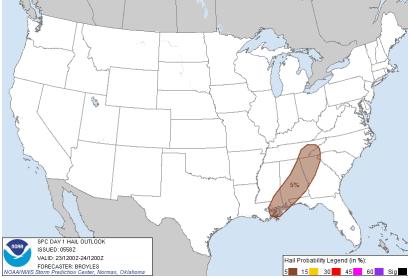
A vigorous low pressure system (which helped produce several severe storms across the Mississippi & Tennessee Valleys Sunday through early Monday morning) will move quickly northeastward across the Upper Midwest today. This will drag a weakening cold front into south Alabama this evening, along with scattered showers and thunderstorms ahead of it. As the low pressure system moves farther away from our area, the upper level winds will weaken by the time the showers and thunderstorms develop later today, making severe storms less likely across our region.

The following image shows the potential for damaging thunderstorm wind gusts through this evening. The "Slight Risk" (yellow) is mainly for ongoing severe storms early this morning in central Alabama. As this area of thunderstorms moves farther south, the winds aloft will gradually weaken, which will likely limit the chances of severe weather potential in southeast Alabama and southwest Georgia.



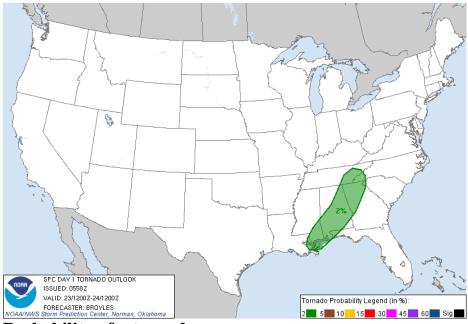


However, there may still be just enough wind, combined with an unusually warm & humid airmass, for a thunderstorm or two to become strong to severe. If this happens, the greatest threat area would be in southeast Alabama and southwest Georgia this afternoon and early evening. Note that the probability is very low, but not zero. (The brown represents a 5% chance of a damaging wind gusts within 25 miles of a point). The chance of 1 inch or greater hail is about the same:



Probability of large hail

...and there is even a very small threat of an isolated tornado, though the overall weather pattern would indicate that such a tornado would probably be relatively "weak" and short-lived.

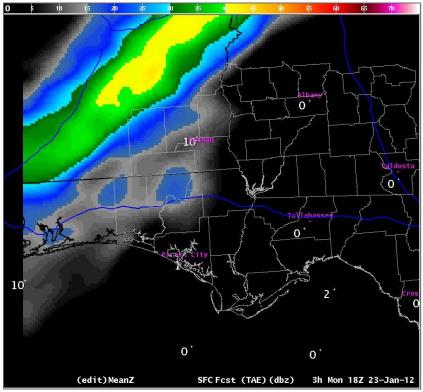


Probability of a tornado

Remember, these numbers may seem almost ridiculously low when you're used to dealing with rain chances. If you consider that the probability of being directly affected by a rare event like a tornado, it's almost zero. Thus any severe weather percentage above zero makes it advisable to monitor the weather.

Timing

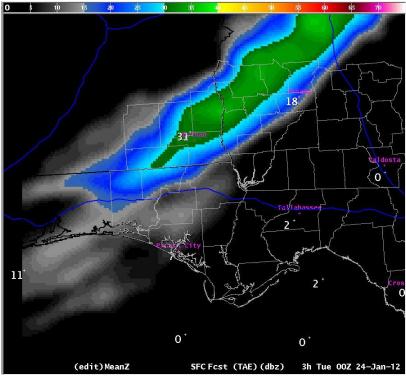
Although isolated to scattered showers may develop this morning, the heavier rain and thunderstorms are not expected to arrive until this afternoon. The next three images show what the local radars might look like this afternoon and evening. They not only indicate the expected timing of the rain, but they also show a gradual weakening trend, especially this evening.



Forecast radar image for early this afternoon



Forecast radar image for mid-late afternoon



Please note that these are just forecasts, and that the actual timing of the rain may vary by several hours.

Forecast radar image for early this evening

Impacts

• Because of the low-end nature of this event, we do not expect widespread impacts from this storm system. Any impact would mostly likely be limited to localized areas of downed trees and/or power lines, and possibly damage to more vulnerable structures like mobile homes and sheds. Isolated damaging wind gusts, marginally severe hail (1 inch), or a brief, isolated tornado are possible. In the rare cases when tornadoes do develop in this type of environment, they are usually weak (F0 or F1) and short-lived (less than 10 minutes).

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Summary:

- There is a "very slight" risk of severe storms through early this evening.
- The highest probability of severe storms, though small, will be in southeast Alabama and southwest Georgia.
- Most of the showers and thunderstorms will occur this afternoon and evening.
- Isolated damaging wind gusts, marginally severe hail, and/or an isolated tornado will be the main severe weather threats.

The National Weather Service in Tallahassee will continue to monitor this situation. If you have any questions, please give our office a call at 850-942-8833 or on our toll free line at 800-598-4562 and ask to speak to a meteorologist. We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also reach us on our Southern Linc phone at 1*77*184.